

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A damped slide mechanism comprising:
a first rail and a second rail engaged with each other and allowing sliding movement relative to each other;
a damper mechanism arranged to influence movement of at least one of said rails with respect to the other of said rails, said damper mechanism including:
a gear damper having a rotor and a gear drivingly connected to said rotor, said rotor having controlled resisted rotation in said damper; and
a body having gear teeth thereon drivingly connected to said gear of said damper, said body having an arm extending outwardly therefrom; and
one of said rails adapted to engage said arm during relative movement of said rails.
2. The slide mechanism of claim 1, said damper mechanism being connected to one of said rails, and the other of said rails including a slot for capturing said arm during relative movement of said rails.
3. The slide mechanism of claim 2, one of said rails being stationary and the other of said rails being movable.
4. The slide mechanism of claim 3, said damper mechanism being connected to said stationary rail.

5. The slide mechanism of claim 4, including a spring operatively engaging said arm for urging movement of said body.

6. The slide mechanism of claim 4, said damper mechanism including a base configured to hold said gear damper and said body.

7. The slide mechanism of claim 6, said base defining a well for receiving and securing said gear damper therein.

8. The slide mechanism of claim 7, said base defining a knob and said body being disposed rotatably on said knob.

9. The slide mechanism of claim 8, said base defining an annular channel around said knob and beneath said body, and a spring being disposed in said annular channel and engaging said arm.

10. The slide mechanism of claim 1, said damper mechanism including a base configured to hold said gear damper and said body.

11. The slide mechanism of claim 10, said base defining a well for receiving and securing said gear damper therein.

12. The slide mechanism of claim 10, said base defining a knob and said body being disposed rotatably on said knob.

13. The slide mechanism of claim 12, said base defining an annular channel around said knob and beneath said body, and a spring being disposed in said annular channel and engaging said arm.

14. A damper mechanism, comprising:

a base;

a gear damper including a housing secured to said base non-rotatably relative thereto, a rotor rotatably disposed in said housing and extending outwardly therefrom and a gear drivingly connected to said rotor; and

a body rotatably disposed on said base, said body having gear teeth thereon drivingly engaging said gear on said rotor, said body including an arm projecting therefrom said arm adapted to engage a structure the relative movement of which is to be damped.

15. The damper mechanism of claim 14, said base defining a well for receiving said gear damper therein.

16. The damper mechanism of claim 14, said base defining a knob and said body being disposed rotatably on said knob.

17. The damper mechanism of claim 16, said base defining an annular channel around said knob and beneath said body, and a spring being disposed in said annular channel and operatively engaging said arm.

18. A slide mechanism comprising:
 - a stationary rail;
 - a movable rail engaged with said stationary rail for sliding movement relative to said stationary rail;
 - a gear damper secured to said stationary rail, said gear damper having a rotatable gear;
 - a body rotatable relative to said stationary rail, said body having gear teeth thereon engaging said gear of said gear damper;
 - an arm connected to said body, said arm projecting toward said movable rail; and
 - a slot defined in said movable rail, said slot positioned in said movable rail to engage said arm during at least a portion of a path of relative sliding movement of said movable rail with respect to said stationary rail.
19. The slide mechanism of claim 18 including a base secured to said stationary rail, said base configured to hold said gear damper nonrotatably relative thereto and to hold said body rotatably relative thereto.
20. The slide mechanism of claim 18 including a spring operatively engaging said arm during at least part of the relative rotational movement of said body, said spring urging rotation of said body.